

CLAIM SET AS AMENDED

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A synthetic grass playing surface comprising a backing, a plurality of synthetic ribbons extending upwardly from said backing, and an infill layer of particulate material placed among said synthetic ribbons, said infill layer including a non-marking particulate ~~rubberized~~ material which is distributed so as to prevent a ball from being marked when the same hits the synthetic grass playing surface, wherein said non-marking particulate material is selected from a group consisting of: non-marking rubbers and non-marking plastics.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A synthetic grass playing surface as defined in claim 1, wherein said non-marking particulate ~~rubberized~~ material is at least partly resilient.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A synthetic grass playing surface as defined in claim 2, wherein said non-marking particulate ~~rubberized~~ material is made from recycled non-marking rubber of the type used in the manufactured of soles for running shoes.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A synthetic grass playing surface as defined in claim 1, wherein said non-marking particulate ~~rubberized~~ material is spread evenly among said ribbons to form a top covering layer for said infill layer at a distance below respective top ends of said ribbons.

5. (ORIGINAL) A synthetic grass playing surface as defined in claim 4, wherein said top covering layer overlies a main sub-layer of mixture of hard sand and cryogenically ground rubber.

6. (ORIGINAL) A synthetic grass playing surface as defined in claim 5, wherein said infill layer further includes a base sub-layer of sand between said backing and said main sub-layer.

7. (ORIGINAL) A synthetic grass playing surface as defined in claim 1, wherein said synthetic grass playing surface is a baseball playing surface, and wherein said ribbons project between 1/4" and 1 1/8 " above said infill layer.

8. (ORIGINAL) A synthetic grass playing surface as defined in claim 7, wherein said infill layer is about 1 1/4" to about 2" thick.

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Claims 9-17 (CANCELLED).